

BATTLE ON MUKDEN ROAD

Russians Were Driven From the Buddhist Temple.

HAND TO HAND FIGHTING.

A despatch from Mukden says:—The attack of the Japanese on the Buddhist temple Hill on Oct. 27 led to sharp fighting. The Japanese artillery played on the position from early in the morning, rendering the trenches untenable, shells and shrapnel sweeping everything, and demolishing all the shelters. Two machine guns with the battalion defending the hill were smashed and disabled, but the defenders carried off the remains of the guns when they were forced to retire. The Japanese infantry attack under cover of the bombardment was made in close order. There was desperate hand-to-hand fighting in the trenches followed by a counter-attack with the bayonet. The Japanese finally gained the hill, but were unable to hold it in the face of the deadly Russian artillery fire.

There have been a number of skirmishes along the whole front, but no development of any serious import has yet appeared, though the armies are in the closest touch, and a general engagement may be precipitated at any time. At one point the trenches are only 400 yards apart. They are separated by a small stream, which is the only water supply in the neighborhood. By mutual consent there is no firing on the water carriers who visit the stream with buckets.

Several positions have already changed hands many times. At daybreak the Russian troops on Lone Tree Hill began shelling the villages to the south where the Japanese were noticeably active. Similar activity was remarked along the whole front.

A detachment of the Russian western column, under Col. Glessner, on the night of Oct. 26 attacked a couple of villages lying a few miles south of Sinchinpu. Russian mortar batteries had previously shelled them throughout the day. Nevertheless, the Japanese offered a desperate resistance, and it was only after a determined bayonet charge that the assailants cleared the village.

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

A despatch from Tokio says:—It is stated that the land campaign at Port Arthur is now very satisfactory, and that shells reach the interior of the important forts with good effect. There are many rumors in Tokio and Yokohama as to the progress of affairs and much expectancy as to what may happen on Nov. 3, which is the Emperor's birthday.

AT PORT ARTHUR.

A despatch from Tokio says: It is reported that the Japanese opened a desperate attack on the eastern forts of the Keekwan group, north of Port Arthur, during the morning of Oct. 26, and silenced the Russian batteries. A shell exploded the Russian magazines.

Simultaneously the Japanese attacked the forts on Rihlung Mountain and Sunghohowian Mountain, silenced the Russian batteries and stormed and occupied the forts in front of these mountains.

On the night of Oct. 26 there was a conflagration in old Port Arthur, and on Oct. 27 a shell hit the Russian battleship Sevastopol and two Russian steamers were sunk.

Official confirmation of the above is lacking, but the reports are believed to be true.

WARSHIPS DAMAGED.

A despatch from Chefoo says: Japanese at Dalny report the continued arrival of huge siege guns.

A junk from Port Arthur with eleven Chinese, who left there on Oct. 19 on account of costliness of food, arrived here on Friday. They say that several of the Russian warships have been hit by dropping shells, but none have been sunk. They estimate the able-bodied soldiers there now at 10,000, saying a smaller force would be insufficient to garrison the various positions.

Scarcely a night passes without small engagements over minor positions and artillery fire is exchanged daily.

Last Winter's uniforms are being worn by the soldiers, who are now mostly supplied with Chinese shoes.

JAPS CAPTURE A HILL.

A despatch from General Kuroki's headquarters in the field, via Fusan, says: The Japanese gave a stirring exhibition of sharp and determined fighting on Thursday. They drove the Russians from a high hill ten miles east of the railroad in General Kuroki's front, which is important strategically as a post of observation and was the only point south of the Shakhe River which the Russians held. About a regiment of Russians were entrenched there with five machine guns.

The Japanese rushed the Russian trenches, shot many Russians as they were running down the hillside and captured two machine guns. The Japanese had twenty men killed and eighty wounded. The Russians left thirty dead on the field. There were

hand-to-hand fighting, when the trenches were taken. The Russians retired across the river. When the Japanese flag was raised over a tower surmounting the hill the Russian batteries showered shrapnel on it for an hour, but without result.

1,000 YARDS APART.

A despatch from Berlin says: The correspondent of the Tageblatt at Mukden says that the Russian and Japanese armies are only one thousand yards apart. Neither will advance and neither will retire. The position is unparalleled in military annals. He thinks that only when the Russians receive reinforcements will the situation alter.

The artillery firing on the Russian left, which began on Wednesday and lasted during the night, has spread south. The weather has again cleared up and is much better for active operations. Suspicious movements of the Japanese have been observed west of the railroad. The Chinese say positively that the Japanese are preparing to turn the Russian right or break through a vulnerable point of the lines.

ADVANCE A GREAT RISK.

A despatch from Tokio says: The latest returns give 15,879 Japanese casualties at the Battle of the Sha River, which is 1,600 less than at the Battle of Liao-Yang. The military authorities explain the great losses of the Russians at the Shakhe battle by the fact that they were surprised by the Japanese taking the offensive along the whole line. This sudden advance caught them in solid column formation. The present indications are that the Russians do not intend to take the offensive. The greater part of their reinforcements from Europe are stopped at the Tie Pass, where they are principally engaged in fortifying. The Kohumin says: "Arm chair critics do not grasp the topographical and climatic conditions that would make a precipitous advance upon Mukden a great risk. They also underrate the transport capacity of the Siberian Railway."

JAPS CAPTURE VILLAGE.

A despatch from Mukden says: There was an artillery fight on the night of Wednesday on the north shore of the Sha River, directly south of Mukden. The cannonading, which was heavy, was continued on Thursday, the Russians attacking the Japanese unsuccessfully. The fighting, it is believed, will continue up to the walls of Mukden.

Fighting began at 10 o'clock Wednesday evening south-east of Mukden. The Japanese have advanced to the Village of Jerdagan, which they are reported to have captured after a fight lasting until Thursday morning.

MUST BREAK JAP OBSTINACY.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—Two Imperial rescripts were published in The Official Messenger on Thursday morning, the first of which is covered by Viceroy Alexist's order of the day announcing the appointment of Gen. Kouropatkin to the chief command of the Russian forces in the east. The second is addressed to Gen. Kouropatkin as Commander-in-Chief of all the military and naval forces at the scene of war. It concludes with these words:—"Your military experience, strengthened by your action in Manchuria, makes me feel confident that you will break the obstinacy of the enemy's forces at the head of your glorious army, and will thereby assure to Russia peace in the far east."

DOWN WITH AUTOCRACY.

A despatch from Vienna says:—The Russian Constitutional party, whose adherents are numerous in the diffeent Zemstvos, has published a manifesto strongly condemning the war. The manifesto declares that the Czar himself is against it, but is overruled by his Ministers and the Grand Dukes. Only the proclamation of a constitution will save Russia at the present dangerous moment. The manifesto concludes with the words, "Down with autocracy. Vive the constitution."

HIT BY FLYING SPLINTER

Fatal Accident to George Brethour in Parry Sound Sawmill.

A Parry Sound despatch says:—A distressing accident occurred at the Parry Sound Lumber Company's sawmill on Tuesday, by which George Brethour lost his life. He was running the gang edge, and while putting a board through the machine, the saws tore a splinter off, and it was hurled with great violence, striking Brethour in the face. The piece of wood, five inches long, entered the face just below the right temple, tearing the upper jaw loose and shattering the right lower jaw into a mass of splinters, opening the brain cavity. The splinter lodged in the wound. Deceased was an industrious young man, who had been married about a year, and he leaves a young widow and an infant.

LEADING MARKETS.

The Ruling Prices in Live Stock and Breadstuffs.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Nov. 1.—Wheat—Ontario red and white quoted \$1.03 to \$1.04; No. 2 goose, 88c to 89c, and No. 2 spring, 97c to 98c east outside; Manitoba, No. 1 northern, \$1.04; No. 2, \$1.01; No. 3, 98c, Georgian Bay ports, 6c more grinding in transit.

Flour—Cars of 90 per cent. patents are quoted at \$4.35 to \$4.46, buyers' sacks east or west. Choice brands, 15c to 20c higher. Manitoba \$5.70 for Hungarian patents, \$5.10 for second patents.

Millfeed—Bran is quoted at \$14 to \$14.50 in bulk, and shorts \$17.50 east or west. Manitoba millfeed unchanged at \$20 to \$21 for shorts and \$19 for bran, export.

Barley—There is a good demand and prices are firm at 45c to 46c for No. 2, 43c to 44c for No. 3 extra, and 42c for No. 3 malting outside; 1c less for sacks included, Toronto freights.

Rye—Is firm at 68c to 70c outside for No. 2.

Corn—There is a good demand, and the market is firm at 63c for No. 2 American yellow, 62c for No. 3, and 60c to 61c for No. 3 mixed on track Toronto.

Oats—No. 1 new white, 32c to 32½c; No. 2 new white, 31½c to 31¾c low freights, and 31c to 31½c north and west.

Rolled Oats—Are in quiet demand at \$4.50 for cars of bags and \$4.75 for barrels on the track Toronto; 25c more for broken lots here, and 40c more for broken lots outside.

Peas—Are quiet and steady at 63c to 64c for No. 2 west or east.

Buckwheat—Is nominally quoted at 50c to 52c at outside points.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—The market is fairly steady in all lines.

Creamery prints 19c to 20c

do solids 19c to 20c

Dairy tubs, good to choice 14c to 15c

do inferior grades 10c to 13c

Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice 16c to 17c

do medium 14c to 15c

Cheese—Is steady, with a firm tone at 9½c per lb. for large, and 10c for twins.

Eggs—Receipts are still light, and the market is firm in tone at 19c to 20c. Sales at the former figure are few and far between.

Potatoes—Ontario stock are quoted at 60c to 65c on track and 75c out of store. Eastern stock is unchanged at 70c to 75c on track and 85c to 90c out of store.

Baled Hay—Is fairly steady and is quoted unchanged at \$8 per ton for car lots on track here.

Baled Straw—The receipts here are fairly large, and the market is quoted unchanged at \$5.75 to \$6 per ton for car lots on track here.

BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Nov. 1.—Grain—Oats, 38 to 38½c for No. 2 in store here; No. 3, 37 to 37½c; American yellow, No. 2, 61c; No. 3, 59c; white, No. 2, 59 to 60c; buckwheat, 59 to 59½c. Flour—Manitoba patents, \$5.80, and strong bakers', \$5.50; high Ontario blended patents, \$5.75 to \$5.85, in wood, choice 90 per cent. patents, \$5.50 to \$5.60, in wood, and 25c per barrel less in shippers' new bags; straight rollers, \$2.45 to \$2.55, and 25 to 30c extra in wood. Rolled oats—\$2.32½ per bag, \$4.90 in barrels. Feed—Ontario bran, in bulk, \$17 to \$18; shorts, \$19 to \$20; Manitoba bran in bags, \$18 to \$19, shorts, \$21. Beans—Choice primes, \$1.40 to \$1.45 per bushel, \$1.35 to \$1.37½ in car lots. Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, \$16.50 to \$17.50; light short cut, \$16.50 to \$17; American clear fat backs, \$20; compound lard, 6½ to 7c; Canadian lard, 6½ to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½ to 9½c; hams, 12 to 13c; bacon, 12 to 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, \$7.50; heavy fat hogs, \$4.50; mixed lots, \$5; selects, \$5.25 off cars. Cheese—Ontario white, 9½c; colored 9½c; Quebec, 9 to 9½c. Butter—Finest grades, 19½c; ordinary finest, 18½ to 19c; Western dairy, 15 to 15½c. Eggs—Select new laid 24c; straight gathered candled, 20c; No. 2, 14 to 15c.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Nov. 1.—The general conditions are the same as have prevailed the last two or three markets. There was a heavy run of very inferior quality cattle, and not enough of the good stuff to meet requirements. More choice butcher cattle are wanted. Prices for these are firm, but the rough cattle are not wanted except at very low prices. Stockers—Good stockers sold at steady prices, but there was a lot of light, rough stuff acting as a drag on the market. Sheep and Lambs—Everything was sold. The market was steady and prospects steady. Hogs—Market weak and prospects lower. No change in quotations today. Exporters, heavy \$4.50 to \$4.60

do light 4.25 4.50

do medium 4.00 4.35

do cows 3.50 4.00

Bulls, export 3.50 3.75

Butchers' picked lots 4.25 4.35

do good to choice loads 4.00 4.25

do fair to good 3.75 4.00

do mixed lots, medium 3.50 3.75

do good cows 2.85 3.25

do common and rough 2.00 2.50

Butchers' bulls 1.75 2.50

do medium 1.75 2.50

do light 1.25 1.75

Light bulls 2.50 3.00

Feeders, short-keeps 3.55 3.65

do good 3.25 3.50

Stockers, good 2.75 3.00

Milk cows, each 30.00 50.00

BRITAIN PREPARING FOR WAR

Russian Admiral Sticks to the Story That He Was Attacked.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 28.—The naval general staff published the following two despatches from Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky:

FIRST DESPATCH.

"The North Sea incident was caused by two torpedo boats advancing to attack without lights, under cover of darkness, against the vessel leading the detachment. When the detachment turned on its searchlights and opened fire the presence of several small steamboats resembling steam fishing boats were discovered. The detachment endeavored to spare these, and ceased firing as soon as the torpedo boats were out of sight.

"The English press is indignant because a torpedo boat left by the detachment on the spot until morning did not aid the victims. Now, there was not a single torpedo boat near the detachment, and none was left behind; consequently the vessel remaining near the small steamboats was that torpedo boat which was not sunk, but only damaged. The detachment did not aid the little steamboats because we suspected them of complicity, on account of their obstinately cutting into the order of the positions of our vessels. Several of them showed no lights and others only very late."

SECOND DESPATCH.

"Having met several hundred fishing boats, the squadron showed them every consideration, except when they, in company with foreign torpedo boats, of which one disappeared, while the other, according to the fishermen's own evidence, remained among them until morning. They supposed it was a Russian, and were indignant because it did not aid the victims; but it was a foreigner, and remained until morning, seeking the other torpedo boat, its consort, either to repair damage or through fears of betraying itself to those who were not its accomplices. If there were also on the spot fishermen, imprudently dragged into the enterprise, I beg in the name of the whole squadron, to express my sincere regret to the unfortunate victims of circumstances under which no warship, even in time of deep peace, could have acted otherwise."

The mystery of the trawler affair, instead of being cleared up by Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's report, today appears to be deeper than ever. The Russian Admiral's explanation is hailed with the greatest satisfaction at the Admiralty and elsewhere, but it is felt that a direct issue has now been raised between Russia and Great Britain, and the incident has entered upon an even more delicate stage. Public sentiment in both countries doubtless will demand the most searching investigation to establish the facts and probably neither nation will be willing to accept the result of an ex-parte enquiry by the other. The outcome will probably be a mixed tribunal of some sort. This at least is the suggestion of some of the cooler-headed men here, as it is felt that only thus could a repetition of the main enquiry be avoided.

Popular excitement has reached a pitch unequalled since the beginning of the war. Public sympathy and confidence undoubtedly are with Admiral Rojestvensky. Should Russia choose to stand upon his version without further enquiry there is no question that such a course would be popular with the masses, who would be willing to back the Government in the controversy to the utmost extremity. It is most unlikely, however, that the Government will adopt such a course. It is much more probable that after the first flush of excitement has faded, a middle way will be found whereby the facts can be established and the national pride of both countries be maintained.

Admiral Wirenus, chief of the naval staff, told enquirers it was impossible that Admiral Rojestvensky had made a mistake concerning the presence of torpedo boats. The Foreign Office officials are of the same opinion. Negotiations with Great Britain are continuing. Nothing can be learned here of any ultimatum. The officials of the Foreign Office point out that it would be most unfair to expect Russia to act before she learned the precise facts from the officers of the squadron. Now that Admiral Rojestvensky's explanation has been received, it will naturally and necessarily involve an enquiry, at which both nations presumably will be represented.

Foreign Minister Lamsdorff is quoted

as saying that he courts a full enquiry at Vigo if the laws of neutrality will allow the ships to stay long enough.

FLEETS CONCENTRATING.

London, Oct. 28.—It is evident that Great Britain is preparing for the possibility of war. Tremendous activity is reported from all dockyards, where vessels under repair are being made ready for sea under urgent orders from the Admiralty. At Cardiff it is stated that Admiralty agents are securing great quantities of coal for Gibraltar, Portsmouth, Malta and other ports and paying high freights. The Mediterranean fleet is hastening in the direction of Gibraltar, and it is announced that the Channel squadron, with decks cleared, will leave Gibraltar early this morning, its alleged object being a "sham attack on the rock." The Home fleet, likewise, is concentrating. In fact, almost the entire British navy is pointing in the direction of the Baltic fleet, a portion of which is expected to sail from Vigo during to-day.

Perhaps the most significant development is the Cabinet meeting which is called for noon to-day. While the meeting was ordered prior to the receipt of Rojestvensky's report, which changed the situation considerably, and appears to place some of the burden of proof upon Great Britain, the meeting undoubtedly marks the reaching of a serious stage.

Admiral Rojestvensky's report seemed to stagger almost everyone. Its statements were met with incredulity, and evidently the reply was regarded as merely an adroit counter in order to gain time. His allegation that he endeavored to spare the trawlers and ceased to fire as soon as the torpedo boats were out of sight, together with the virtual accusation of complicity with supposed Japanese torpedo boats against the fishermen, is hardly likely to reconcile an angry nation to the possibility that there is another side to the case calling for investigation.

THE CASE SETTLED.

London, Oct. 28, (Midnight.)—A satisfactory settlement has been arrived at in the dispute between Great Britain and Russia over the North Sea incident.

The matter has been referred to an international commission, and both sides will abide by the decision of the said commission, which will consider all the questions at issue. There will also be a Board of Trade enquiry, with the assistance of representatives of the Russian Government.

A final enquiry will be held at The Hague under the rules of The Hague Convention. The appointment of the arbitrators will be discussed between Ambassador Benckendorff and Lord Lansdowne.

Meantime the portion of the Baltic squadron concerned in the North Sea incident will remain at Vigo until the enquiry is completed, the permission of Spain having been obtained. The remainder of the second North Pacific squadron will proceed to its destination.

Just how the details of the commission are to be worked out will be determined so soon as the general basis is reached. It is almost certain that two simultaneous enquiries will be held by the British at Hull and the Russians at Vigo, each with representatives of the other present. The results of both enquiries will be submitted to The Hague Tribunal.

A NEW EXPLANATION.

London, Oct. 31.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Express claims to have high authority for stating that the Admiralty has now definitely ascertained that the Baltic fleet fired on two of its own torpedo boats, which were scouting round the warships. One escaped by skilful manoeuvring. The other, believing when the firing began that it was attacked by Japanese, replied, wounding several on board the nearest battleship. The commander of the torpedo boat was the first to realize the mistake, whereupon he signaled frantically. Then he got out of range. Three battleships continued firing, but their shots were aimed at the British fishermen. Admiral Rojestvensky held an enquiry into the matter before the warships reached Cherbourg.

It is recalled that Admiral Rojestvensky declared that there were no torpedo boats accompanying him.

do fair to good	3.75	4.00	Export ewes, per cwt.	3.25	3.50
do mixed lots, medium			Bucks	2.50	2.75
do good	3.50	3.75	Culls, each	2.00	3.50
do good cows	2.85	3.25	Lambs, per cwt.	3.85	4.50
do common and rough	2.00	2.50	Calves, per lb.	3	5
do each	2.00	2.50	do each	2.00	10.00
Butchers' bulls	1.75	2.50	Hogs, selects, per cwt.	5.00	
do medium	1.75	2.50	do lights	4.75	
do light	1.25	1.75	do fats	4.75	
Light bulls	2.50	3.00			
Feeders, short-keeps	3.55	3.65			
do good	3.25	3.50			
Stockers, good	2.75	3.00			
Milk cows, each	30.00	50.00			

A battery of field artillery numbering 180 men will be stationed in the proposed new barracks at Montreal.